

24. The method according to claim 18, wherein the inner wall surface defines an inner diameter of the tubular body and the sizing step comprises sizing the outer diameter of the back wall with respect to the inner diameter of the tubular body to provide a gap of less than or equal to 0.2 mm therebetween for caulking material having a lower viscosity than any one of the group consisting essentially of silicones, glycerol esters, resins and rosin acids.--

Remarks:

Claims 1 to 24 are now in the application. Claims 4 to 24 have been added.

New claims 4 to 24 address the features of the methods according to the invention of the instant application. Support for the changes is found on page 8, line 13, to page 14, line 13, of the specification.

Applicant respectfully believes that the claims are patentable over the art.

Allowance of claims 1 to 24 is solicited.

In the event the Examiner should find any of the claims to be unpatentable, he is respectfully requested to telephone

counsel so that, if possible, patentable language can be worked out.

The fee in the amount of \$75.00 -- \$39.00 for one (1) independent claim in excess of three (3) pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.16(b) and \$36.00 for four (4) claims in excess of twenty (20) pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.16(c) -- is enclosed herewith.

Please charge any other fees that might be due with respect to Sections 1.16 and 1.17 to the Deposit Account of Lerner and Greenberg, P.A., No. 12-1099.

Respectfully submitted,



For Applicant
GLM/bb

Gregory L. Mayback
Reg. No. 40,719

October 19, 1999

Lerner and Greenberg, P.A.
Post Office Box 2480
Hollywood, FL 33022-2480
Tel: (954) 925-1100
Fax: (954) 925-1101

A